1	2	3
11.	Orissa	1. Dhenkanal
12.	Punjab	1. Ludhiana
		2. Patiala
13.	Rajasthan	1. Ajmer
		2. Jodhpur
14.	Tamil Nadu	1. Salem
15.	Uttar Pradesh	1. Safai Etewah
		2. Rai-Bareilly
16.	West Bengal	1. Lebong
		2. Burdwan

Indo-Nepal Treaty

1473. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to restore the erstwhile agreement between India and Nepal whose period is over;

(b) if so, the details of negotiations going on between the two countries; and

(c) the time by which the agreement will be restored ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) to (c) The Treaty of Trade between India and Nepal was due to expire on 5 December, 1996. It was agreed to modify and extend the Treaty for a further period of five years, upto 5 December, 2001, through exchange of letters, dated 3.12.1996. The Treaty shall now be automatically extended for further period of five years at a time, unless either of the parties, gives to the other a written notice, three months in advance, of its intention to terminate the Treaty.

[English]

Interest by Ship Builders

1474. SHRI UTTAM SINGH PAWAR: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that Indian ship builders have to pay 23 per cent interest on bank draft for working capital whereas OECD countries pay only 6 to 7 per cent and in some countries even below 5 per cent;

(b) whether it is also a fact that ship building is treated as an export industry by all countries and in countries like U.K., China and Taiwan, there is no upper limit on the amount of subsidy that is provided to them and the only criterion is to secure an export order at any cost whereas in India only 20 per cent subsidy is given; and

(c) if so, the reason therefor and the steps the Government propose to take to make this industry as internationally competitive ?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) According to the information available with this Ministry, Indian shipbuilders pay 16.00 to 23.5 per cent interest on the working capital, whereas in OECD countries, the interest rate is 6 to 7 per cent.

(b) and (c) Shipbuilding is treated as an export industry in some of the countries. Many countries world-over have been supporting shipbuilding industry with incentives such as subsidy, tax concessions, etc. The details are not easily available as these are of confidential nature having commercial implications.

In order to revive the shipbuilding industry, a revised pricing policy for construction of ocean-going vessels in Indian Public Sector shipyards was introduced in September, 1993 for a period of 2 years. The policy *inter-alia*, envisaged availability of shipbuilding subsidy of 30% over and above the basic price (20% payable by the Government and 10% by the shipowner) and availability of interest differential subsidy on loan of 9% upto an extent of 80% of the cost of the ship. Government is considering extension of subsidy scheme and also to include export orders.

C.G.H.S. Dispensary

1475. SHRI KESHAB MAHANTA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government are running any CGHS dispensary for the beneficiaries of Central Government Employees who are posted in Guwahati and its vicinity;

(b) if so, the details thereof, and whether these dispensaries are adequate in number;

(c) if not, whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to start CGHS dispensaries there; and

(d) if so, the time by which the same are likely to be started ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Three CGHS dispensaries have been sanctioned for the beneficiaries of Guwahati which, as per present needs of the Card holders there, are adequate. Two of the dispensaries have already started functioning.

(c) and (d) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Illiteracy

1476. SHRI MANIBHAI RAMJIBHAI CHAUDHARI : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether a large number of illiterates still exists in the country;

(b) if so, the total number of illiterates, State-wise;